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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 03 TEGUCIGALPA 002063

SIPDIS

DEA HQS PLS PASS TO SARI, OF/STEFFICK, BOND, HUTCHINSON,
NTRM/BERGMANN
DEA MEXICO FOR HOLIFIELD, BAEZA, GARAY AND WHITE
DEA BOGOTA PLS PASS TO CARTAGENA RO FOR FISCHER
STATE FOR INL

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT: WEAPON SEIZURE;

TI-00-0003/WEC1F;GARCIA-MONTES,CARLOS

CCX:ZU-04-0024/UEC1I;NARVAES-ALTAMAR, JUAN CARLOS

REF: A. BOGOTA TWX 07868 DATED 091639ZAUG04

B. TEGUCIGALPA TWX 01712 DATED 042236ZAUG04

C. TEGUCIGALPA TWX 01588 DATED 281320ZMAY02

1. (SBU) On August 20, 2004, members of the Honduran police and Prosecutors office found another arsenal of weapons from a residence near Zamorano, Honduras (HD) belonging to Carlos GARCIA-Montes (NADDIS 4539661), who was murdered in Bocagrande, Colombia (CB) (near Cartagena, CB) on July 14, 2004. From hereforth GARCIA-Montes will be referred to as MONTES. The following weapons and serial numbers were extracted from a buried hole localized in the house under the foundation slab at the Zamorano property:

1 x MG-50M2 (50 cal - heavy barrel), Serial Number (S/N) P/N 7265636, manufacturer (MFG): Saco Defense Systems Division, March 1983

2 x Colt

A. AR-15, S/N: 618316

B. M16AL: S/N unknown

18 x FAL (cal 7.6)

A. MFG: Hestel, Belgium, S/N: 15048, Receiver#: 853913

B. MFG: Hestel, Belgium, S/N: 15074, Receiver#: 853939

C. MFG: Hestel, Belgium, S/N: 17305

D. MFG: Hestel, Belgium, S/N: 17383

E. MFG: Hestel, Belgium, S/N: 17741

F. MFG: Hestel, Belgium, S/N: 6255

G. MFG: Hestel, Belgium, S/N: 16939

H. MFG: Hestel, Belgium, S/N: 14525

I. MFG: Hestel, Belgium, S/N: 15575

J. MFG: Hestel, Belgium, S/N: 15359

K. MFG: Argentina, S/N: 113734

L. MFG: Argentina, S/N: 109586 (Paratrooper Version)

M. MFG: Argentina, S/N: 113716 (Paratrooper Version),

Possibly a Honduran Police weapon because of tape marking indicating it was defective.

N. MFG: Unknown, S/N: 14799, Contained initials:

"FSP" indicating it belonged to the pre-1997 Honduran Police (Previous Army).

O. MFG: Argentina, S/N: 112130 (Paratrooper Version), stock missing.

P. MFG: Hestel, Belgium, S/N: 16780, tape marking indicates it was likely a Honduran Police weapon.

Q. MFG: Unknown, S/N: 14610 & 13956, Double serial numbers indicate this may have been a Contra War weapon that was taken and used by the Honduran Police.

R. MFG: Unknown, S/N: 1262 & 17164, Double serial numbers indicate this may have been a Contra War weapon that was taken and used by the Honduran Police

16 x MG-32 (7.62)

A. S/N: 1095, secondary S/N on rear bolt: 2534, Germany 1944

B. S/N: 6059, Germany 1939

C. S/N: 4234, Germany 1940

D. S/N: 9430, Germany 1940

E. S/N: 4293, Germany

F. S/N: 3421, Germany 1941

G. S/N: 4393, Germany

H. S/N: 2467, Germany

I. S/N: 3203, Germany 1943

J. S/N: 3445, Germany 1937

K. S/N: 3890, Germany

L. S/N: 3142, Germany

M. S/N: 3972, Germany

N. S/N: 887, Germany 1942

O. S/N: 4073, Germany 1945

P. S/N: 5765, Germany 1942

3 x UZI (9mm)

A. MFG: Israel, S/N: 078848

B. MFG: Israel, S/N: 079120

C. MFG: Herstal, Belgium, S/N: 0464

2 x Port-Said (salmopal - 9mm)

- 1A. MFG: Egypt, S/N 71001591
- 1B. MFG: Egypt, S/N 7100159

4 x MG-42 (7.62)

- 1A. MFG: Germany, S/N 01015 (partial)
- 1B. MFG: Germany, 8113-14142
- 1C. MFG: Germany, (none found)
- 1D. MFG: Germany, 4859D

2 x M60 (7.72 cal)

- 1A. possible S/N 72690239
- 1B. possible S/N 7792898

4 x AK-47 (7.62 x 39)

- 1A. MFG (possibly Soviet) S/N 1985PZ8760
- 1B. MFG (possibly Chinese) S/N 2495
- 1C. MFG unknown, S/N 1985SP27243 (folding stock)
- 1D. MFG unknown, S/N 1933 (partial)

7 x RPG-7V

- 1A. MFG in 1966, S/N NrDB217
- 1B. MFG in 1967, S/N NrGA081
- 1C. MFG in 1969, S/N NrAL836
- 1D. MFG in 1967, S/N Nr68798
- 1E. MFG in 1967, S/N NrGA716
- 1F. MFG in 1966, S/N NrGA721
- 1G. MFG in 1982, (2 numbers stamped on handle: 964 and 620)

3 x RPG-7B (The following S/N are an interpretation of Russian lettering)

- 1A. MFG unknown, S/N AB2510
- 1B. MFG in 1967, S/N AX858
- 1C. MFG unknown, S/N BA2522

1 x unknown weapon with Italian lettering and S/N of SHE125458

12. (SBU) This large weapon seizure is another iteration in a complex conspiracy connecting MONTES and Geovanni MEJIA, AKA: Ethalson Geovanny MEJIA-Hoy (a Colombian weapons trafficker in Honduras), allied along family lines with Honduran legal representatives and members of the Honduran Judiciary.

13. (SBU) Per ref B, Geovanni MEJIA (NADDIS 5435631) was detained on July 28, 2004, by Honduran authorities based on a Colombian arrest warrant. Later that evening, Honduran Judge Servin Antonio RUIZ-Lobo, (NADDIS NEGATIVE) claiming to be acting on behalf of Supreme Court Magistrate Nicolas GARCIA-Sorto, ordered MEJIA's release. RUIZ based his decision on the view that there were "problems" with the Colombian arrest warrant, therefore MEJIA could not be held. MEJIA was defended by his live-in "girl friend" attorney Gloria Maritza GARCIA-Suarez (NADDIS NEGATIVE) who facilitated MEJIA's release.

14. (SBU) Both MEJIA and GARCIA have been linked to MONTES. Per ref A, on July 26, 2004, a Colombian National Police (CNP) maritime boat patrol on patrol near Jhonny Cay, (a small key off San Andres Island) seized 59 automatic weapons and 12 RPGs with accompanying rockets from a boat in the area. A Colombian identified as Juan Carlos NARVAEZ-Altamar who was arrested at the scene implicated MEJIA and GARCIA as the owners of the weapons. NARVAEZ also indicated the weapons were destined for use by the Autodefensas Unidas de Colombia (AUC). NARVAEZ told police that NARVAEZ formerly worked for MONTES, who was recently murdered in the area of Cartagena, CB.

15. (SBU) According to the March 17, 2004, edition of El Herald, GARCIA stated she knew nothing of a guns for drugs conspiracy between herself, MONTES, and MEJIA as indicated by Fiscal Doris Aguilar, but did admit to defending MONTES in the past. It was also reported (ref A) that GARCIA may be the niece or otherwise related to Honduran Supreme Court Justice Nicolas GARCIA-Sorto who reportedly influenced RUIZ to have MEJIA released.

16. (U) Questions concerning this cable can be directed to Acting C/A Ivan Rios, S/A Tony Sanes, or I/A John Domingue at (301)985-9321.

17. (U) Pursuant to the DEA Agents manual, section 6242.11, this twx is submitted in lieu of a DEA-6.

INDEXING

- 11. MONTES, Carlos Pedro - NADDIS 4539661
- 12. MEJIA, Geovanni - NADDIS 5435631

AKA: Ethalson Geovany Mejia-Hoy
POB: Colombia
Associate: Gloria Maritza Garcia-Suarez

13. RUIZ-Lobo, Servin Antonio - NADDIS NEGATIVE

14. GARCIA-Suarez, Gloria Maritza - NADDIS PENDING
Associate: Ethalson Geovany Mejia-Hoy

Palmer